

# The FSA Dirt

**August  
2008**

## NOTICE – NOTICE – NOTICE

### 2008 Disaster Program Require Crop Insurance or Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program Coverage (NAP)

**“Buy-In” Deadline for the 2008 Disaster Program is September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2008**

The Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (2008 Act, Pub. L. 110-246, was enacted June 18, 2008. The 2008 Act created several new disaster programs under the title, “Supplemental Agricultural Disaster Assistance”. To be eligible for these programs, producers **must** purchase at least CAT level of crop insurance for all insurable crops and/or NAP coverage for non-insurable crops. Sales closing dates for CAT and application closing deadline for NAP have passed for the 2008 crop year for nearly all insurable and non-insurable crops. A waiver has been authorized in the 2008 Act to allow producers to pay, within 90 calendar days of enactment (September 16, 2008), a buy-in fee to be eligible for Supplemental Agricultural Disaster Assistance for crops for which they did **not** purchase crop insurance or NAP coverage for 2008. **The 2008 buy-in fee does not provide insurance coverage – it does provide eligibility (not approval) for the following programs.**

Five new Supplemental Disaster Assistance Programs were created. The 4 programs subject to the Risk Management Purchase Requirement waiver are:

- Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments (SURE) Program
- Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP)
- Tree Assistance Program (TAP)
- Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honey Bees, and Farm-Raised Fish(ELAP)
- The fifth program, Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP), is exempt from the Risk Management Purchase Requirement and: therefore, does not require a waiver.

For producers to be eligible for assistance under SURE, TAP, and ELAP, producers **must** obtain a plan of insurance for each insurable commodity on the farm and, for each non-insurable commodity; the producer **must** file the required paperwork and pay the administrative fee by September 16, 2008. **According to the 2008 Act, a farm, is defined as the sum of all crop acreage in all counties that is planted or intended to be planted for harvest by the eligible producer.**

For producers to be eligible for assistance under LFP, producers **must** obtain a plan of insurance or file the required paperwork and pay the administrative fee **September 16, 2008** for NAP for the **grazing land** incurring losses for which assistance is being requested.

The buy-in fee for both CAT and NAP is \$100 per crop, but not more than \$300 per producer per administrative county, or \$900 total per producer for all counties less and previously paid fees for CAT and/or NAP. Producers must “buy-in” for all non-insurable and insurable crops that aren’t already covered by NAP or crop insurance.

#### QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1. A wheat producer insures all of his wheat acres through FCIC. The producer also has a grass field, which is grazed by his cows.

#### Answer

**If acreage is grazed by livestock for commercial production, regardless of size or number of animals, then yes, "buy in" fee is required. Landowners and Livestock Owners with AUM leases will also need to buy-in for 2008 to be eligible for the 2008 Disaster Program.**

**If you have livestock that are for leisure purposes only, then “buy-in” is not required.**

2. The Buy-In deadline is Sept. 16, 2008. The acreage reporting deadline is August 15, 2008. If the producer’s acreage report has been completed without the grazing land, should the report be corrected.

#### Answer

**Yes, the report should be corrected to include grazing acreages.**

3. Producer did not purchase FCIC for “ALL” crops on the farm – For example: All of the wheat acres were insured but not the oats acres. Is it necessary to buy-in for the oats acres to be eligible for the disaster program SURE?

#### Answer

**Yes, buy-in must be obtained for the Oats in order for the producer to be eligible for SURE.**

4. Producer insured all of his commodity crop acres through FCIC, but did not insure the grazing. Can he still qualify for the Sure Program?

**No, not all crops and grazing were covered.**

**BASICALLY, ALL ACRES OF CROPLAND AND GRAZING IN ALL COUNTIES MUST BE INSURED TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR THE SUPPLEMENTAL DISASTER ASSISTANCE**



## Service Center

### U.S. Department of Agriculture

**Gilliam-Wheeler FSA**  
P.O. Box 467  
Condon, OR 97823  
541-384-2281 (phone)  
541-384-2288 (fax)

**Hours:**  
Monday - Friday  
7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

#### County Committee:

Garey Fischer, Wheeler  
Richard Harper, Gilliam  
Jeff Nelson, Gilliam  
Sarah Rucker, Gilliam

**Staff:**  
Bonnie Johnson  
Ellen Wagenaar



## In This Letter:

## SPECIAL ADDITION

Farm Service Agency  
Gilliam-Wheeler FSA  
P.O. Box 467  
Condon, OR 97823

**Important Dates:**

**September 1, 2008:** Office Closed -- Labor Day

**September 16, 2008:** 2008 Disaster Eligibility “Buy-in” Deadline for NAP and CAT Crops

**September 30, 2008:** Deadline to enroll in 2008 DCP

**December 1, 2008:** Deadline to purchase 2009 NAP coverage

**Within 15 days:** NAP Notice of Loss (FSA-576) must be filed within 15 days of loss or when the loss became apparent.

**2009 Non-Insured Disaster Assistance Program Deadlines**

For the 2009 crop year only, the NAP application deadline has been extended to December 1, 2008 for these following crops: Alfalfa, Apples, Apricots, Asparagus, Barley, Beets, Blueberries, Cabbage, Caneberries, Canola, Carrots, Chestnuts, Cherries, Clover, Cranberries, Flowers, Garlic, Grapes, Grass, Greens, Hazelnuts, Herbs, Honey, Hops, Meadowfoam, Mixed Forage, Nectarines, Oats, Onions, Peaches, Pears, Plums, Prunes, Radish, Rye, Strawberries, Sugarbeet, Triticale, Vetch, Walnuts, and Wheat (non-insurable).

For 2009 the NAP Fee has changed to \$250 per crop, \$750 per producer per county, \$2,250 maximum per producer in all counties. FSA encourages producers to come in prior to the deadline to sign-up. **Please remember that the insurance policy coverage period will not begin until the latter of either 30 days after the NAP application has been filed, or the date the crop is planted (not to exceed the final planting date).**

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